THE ROANOKE TIMES.

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tan. Wytheville—E. H. Bailey. Norfolk and Westernstrains.

A POSITION DEFENDED.

In a communication in the Evening World, W. W. Berkeley, Esq., takes issue with the editorial in THE TIMES of December 24, which concluded thus:

"No one in Roanoke should be willing to have the Hustings Court, which is distinctly the court of Roanoke, made of secondary rank to a circuit court, which would not be distinctively a Roanoke court."

Mr. Berkeley seems to hold that such a circuit court would not be higher dignity than the Hustings Court. THE TIMES adheres to its editorial of the 24th. The Hustings Court is of the same rank as a county court, and therefore of inferior dignity to a court having larger territorial jurisdiction. There is grave doubt if the legislature would establish a circuit court for Roanoke city alone, and one including a larger territory than Roanoke city would not be distinctively a Roanoke

Again, Mr. Berkeley states that if a criminal court were established according to Judge King's suggestion, and the course pursued as proposed by Judge King, "it is certain that no decision of the court of appeals could be obtained before next June." THE TIMES believes that Mr. Berkeley will not maintain this position after a second examination of the point. The court of appeals would give an immediate decision on a writ of prohibition, or THE TIMES is misinformed regarding the method of procedure of that tribunal.

FESS OR FIGHT.

The Chilian difficulty is approaching a crisis. Chili must either apologize or fight. If she apologizes it will be with ill grace, and in a half-hearted manner. She may not apologize at all. If she doesn't the United States has got to go down there and smash things up, with something of the internal qualms that a conscientious bull would have in attacking a nest of hornets.

Yes, we would whip Chili, but after she was whipped it wouldn't have been much of a fight, or much glory in it. She is a cantankerous little varmint. but the Baltimore affair should be coldly judged. The sailors of the Baltimore were roistering in a disreputable portion of Valparaiso and got into a row, were undoubtedly the victims of a mob and the mob was aided by the police rather than restrained.

If Chili shows proper respect for the uniform the sailors wore, the Government at Washington cannot afford to go into the fighting business because Chi.i makes up a face while she eats the crow.

Feeling Against Dooley.

The feeling among the members of the police force against Jeff Dooley, the negro who assaulted Officer Mabry, is negro who assaulted Officer Mabry, is naturally very strong, and several of the policemen have expressed the opinion that Dooley ought to hang for his crime. This talk became so general that Chief Brown has forbidden the men from expressing their opinions at all on the subject. If Mr. Mabry should die from his wound, it is certain that the members of the force will do all in their power to have his murderer brought to justice.

Dent's Case Dismissed.

The case against Will Dent for assaulting Will Henry, the baseball player, was dismissed yesterday by Justice Howerton. Mr. Henry stated that he wished to withdraw the warrant and Dent was allowed to go free.

Mabry Somewhat Better.

Officer Mabry was somewhat improved yesterday and his friends were more hopeful. However his condition is still wery critical. Officer Tally has been detailed to stay with him, and everyTHE RAILROAD COMMISSION.

Probably no legislative enactment or proposed enactment in late years has attracted more general attention than

attracted more general attention than that now being agitated for the appointment of a board of railroad commissioners for the State of Virginia.

Just what advantage is to be derived from the appointment of such a board it is difficult to discern, but there is virtually no limit to the mischief it may accomplish.

The wonderful development which has drawn the attention of the entire country to Virginia during the past two or three years is traceable directly to

or three years is traceable directly to the influence of our railroads. The vast coal fields of the Southwest would vast coal fields of the Southwest would still be waste mountain lands had it not been for the progressive policy of the Norfolk and Western; the same is true of the coal and iron territeries opened up by the Chesapeake and Ohie and other roads in various portions of the State. These roads have made possible the settlement of the State debt by opening the way for the development of our resources and the consequent increase of the State's revenues. Wherever their lines have been extended taxable values have increased and the revenues of the State augmented, until we are now, for the first time

ed, until we are now, for the first time since our enormous debt was incurred, in a situation to propose a settlement with an absolute certainty of being able to meet the interest thereon promptly as it matures.

as it matures.

The present railroad laws of Virginia are probably the most illiberal, with one or two exceptions, of those of any State in the Union, yet the present movement is designed to hamper them still further—to practically proclaim to the world that Virginia wants no further development; that she wants the moss to grow over her industrial plants, the grass to grow in her streets and ruin

to grow over her industrial plants, the grass to grow in her streets and ruin and desolation to walk hand in hand throughout the length and breadth of the Old Dominion.

Instead of imposing still further restrictions on railroads built or to be built within the State, it would be a far better policy to abolish those already in force, and thus open the way for the further development of our resources.

further development of our resources.

We understand that one of the objects sought to be obtained by the proposed measure is the equalization of passenger and freight rates on the various lines. The friends of the measure claim this as and freight rates on the various lines. The friends of the measure claim this as one of the most meritorious features of the bill. If such be the case, why not extend its beneficence? For instance, there are large numbers of newspapers published in the State, with subscription rates varying from fifty cents to \$6 per year. Why not give us a board of commissioners with unlimited powers? They could then reduce all newspapers to the fifty cent basis, adjust the wages of the editor, compositors, pressman and the devil, and also possibly indicate the source from which the money could be obtained to pay the same.

Then we need a board of farm product commissioners. In Shendun, eggs are selling at 25 cents a dozen, while in Highland county, the same amount of money buys twice as many eggs, and this applies in about the same proportion to all other classes of produce. One farmer demands and receives \$1 a bushel for his wheat, while his neighbor probably sold for 95 cents. These matters require regulating, and in order to place all the farmers on an equal footing we must have a commission to compel all farmers to sell their pro-

footing we must have a commission to compel all tarmers to sell their products at a uniform price-the lowest of

A general merchandise commission should also be established, with power to inflict dire punishment on any mer-chant who would dare to charge 5 cents a pound for sugar when some other mer-chant, perhaps in an adjoining county, was selling the same grade of sugar at 414 cents.

The governor of Michigan receives a salary of \$1,000 a year, while Virginia pays tays for the same service \$5,000 per year. We want a board of gubernatorial salary commissioners at once to cut off that useless expenditure of \$4,000—to be sure, the salaries of the board might aggregate from \$6,000 to \$10,000, but look at the saving made in the executive's salary.

This list might be extended indefinitely, and any one of the suggestions we have offered is just as sensible and practicable as the one to establish the railroad commission.

The gist of the whole matter seems to be that a few broken down politicians

to be that a few broken down politicians have discovered a plan for providing themselves with a soft berth, and are themselves with a soft berth, and are working it for all it is worth. What we want in Virginia is fewer politicians of this class and more railroads, and it is to be hoped that our legislators will see the absurdity of the scheme proposed and defeat its passage.

We want no such retrogressive measures at this time. Better establish a home for broken down politicians.

measures at this time. Better establish a home for broken down politicians, regardless of previous party predictions, and support them at the public expense, as is the case with other unfortunate or afflicted citizens, than to put them in a position such as the one proposed, where little possible good can, and irreparable damage may, be done to the State and to those who have done so much to increase her actual wealth.

For Breaking the Gate.

Charles Taylor, one of the drivers of the Sands Transfer Company, was tried before Justice Howerton yesterday for before Justice Howerton yesterday for driving against the Jefferson street railroad gate and breaking it. Taylor claimed that the back strap of his harness broke and he was unable to stop his horse. He was fined \$5 and costs, and not being able to pay the money was looked up. There is also another charge against Taylor of resisting an officer on the depot platform and he will probably be tried for that to-day.

An Enjoyable Sociable.

A very enjoyable sociable was held at the residence of Mrs. McFalls, on Seventh avenue s. w., last night. Refreshments were served and dancing was indulged in. Among those present were the Misses Fannie McFalls, Lula McFalls, Annie Kinsey, Ida Elliott, Flora Lewis, Gussie Dayton, Lillie Turner, Bertie Wade, Rosa Proffett. Maud Proffett and Messrs. John F. Brizzi, C. L. Thomason, W. E. Airheart, J. M. Elliott, James Wright, John Bladon, Thomas McFalls, Payne and Stratton.

THE George Steck, Weber, Chase, Jacob Bros., Everett and Cornet pianos are well and favorably known in the music world. The Smith Music Company have them.

AN INTERESTING EVENT.

The annual Christmas tree entertain ment and distribution of premiums of the St. Andrew's Sunday-school was held on Monday night, and like all previous occasions, was a grand success. vious occasions, was a grand success. The spacious hall, which was nicely decorated, was filled to overflowing, and promptly at 9 o'clock the exercises were opened with a grand chorus of fifteen voices, entitled, "Christmas is Here," which was rendered in an excellent manner, after which the following programme was presented:

Address by the superintendent, Mr. W. A. Carr.

Dialogue, Misses Fannie Brophy, Regina Carr, Lucy Smith and Nellie Morgan.

Instrumental duette, Prof. Guerner

Instrumental duette, Prof. Guerner

and Mrs. S. M. Brophy.
Recitation, "I am a Little Dutchman,"
Eddie Welsh.

Eddie Welsh.
Presentation of gold medal, by Rev.
J. W. Lynch.
Awarding of premiums.
Distribution of presents.
A visit by Santa Claus.
The exercises were concluded with a grand hop, which was enjoyed by all.
Two much praise cannot be given the management of the entertainment, and they can always count on a crowded house.

The medal was awarded to Miss Berta Wrenn, who had attended school every Sunday during the year, and was perfect in her lessons and conduct. There were a great many fine books awarded to the best in each less. best in each class.

a great many nne books awarded to the best in each class.

The tree presented a handsome appearance and was covered with toys, dolls and jewelry. There were about 250 bags of candy and fruit and about 375 presents of all kinds.

Father Lynch received several handsome presents, one of which was from the Sunday-school. W. A. Carr was the recipient of many presents, among which was a handsome diamond scarf pin from Father Lynch, and a beautiful gold watch charm from the teachers.

All who attended the entertainment were delighted and all joined in wishing every success to the St. Andrews Sunday-school.

GERMAN AND HOP.

A Brilliant Social Event at Hotel Roan oke Last Night.

Entertainments of different character have crowded into every night of the holidays, but the one to which the eyes of Roanoke's elite society have been turned was the hop and german at

Hotel Roanoke last evening given by the Roanoke German Club.

At 9 o'clock the dancing began and was kept up till the hours of the morning. With music by the Machine Works orchestra and Will Frye as leader the affair passed off as pleasantly as any could have wished.

affair passed off as pleasantly as any could have wished.

There were present a number of young ladies and gentlemen from neighboring cities.

Among the dancers were: Miss Emily Beck with Alex Gunn; Will Penn with Miss Annie Penn; Mr. Parcault with Miss Lulu Terry; Lee Simmons with Miss Mattie Terry; Gooch Vaughn and Miss Maggie Ott; O. Selwyn Marston with Miss Tunstall; Dr. Hoffman and Miss Kellogg; John T. Trout and Miss Bocock, of Charlottesville; J. D. Lazell and Miss Yuille; Hugh Dickinson and Miss Daniel; Miss Fisher and Miss Bickham; Mr. Waters and Miss Thayer; Dr. Simmons and Miss Simms, Mr. Randolph and Mr. Fisher, of Danville; Lawrence Clark and Miss Harbison; Warren Welford and Miss Harbison; Warren Welford and Miss Humbert; Mr. Norvell, of Lynchburg, with Miss Collins; Charles Starkey and Miss Rogers; W. B. Moss and Miss Langhorne; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Frye; Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Watts; Mr. and Mrs. George Henderson; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gallaher; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Levy; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel.

Among the stags were Charles Lyle, H. W. Flournoy, Jr. Sydney Wheisiger and Thomas Goodwin.

LIQUOR AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

LIQUOR AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

It is Now Understood That Liquor Will be Sold on the Ground

CHICAGO, Dec. 29 .- [Special |- Liquor is to be sold at the World's Fair. It was not known definitely until yesterthe liquor programme. Secretary Crawford, of the ways and means committee. gave the first intimation of the plan. He said his committee had decided to allow the sale of liquor. The exposition is to get a percentage of the gross receipts realized. After he had volunteered this much Mr. Crawford declined to talk further.

to talk further.
President Baker said it was prac-President Baker said it was practically decided months ago that liquor should not be sold in saloons—nothing of that kind—but it will be on sale in restaurants. Director E. B. Butler, acting chairman of the ways and means committee in the absence of Mr. Higginbotham, said no final action had been taken by his committee, but it was understood by all members of the committee that liquor would be sold on the grounds.

The reason for this action by the directors as given by one of the board is that an immense revenue can be derived from the sale of the liquor privileges. The national commission is yet to be consulted in the matter.

leges. The national commission is yet to be consulted in the matter.

Director General Davis, when interviewed, said: "The board of control has power to veto anything that seems objectionable. It would certainly have such power as regards the sale of liquor. What it will do, however, is of course a matter for the board to decide."

ASHWORTH ASSAULTED.

A Negro Whom He Had Arrested Tries to Club Him.

Last night about 11 o'clock Officer Ashworth was called to Bunker Hill to quelt a disturbance raised by some negroes. He had arrested one negro and started with him to the station-

and started with him to the stationhouse when the negro grabbed his
billy, wrenched it from his hand and
attempted to club the officer.

Askworth drew his pistol and fired
two shois at the negro, who fied, but
neither took effect. He reported the
occurrence to headquarters and accompanied by Sergeant Jones went back to
look for the negro, but he had made
good his escape.

RADFORD.

ST. JOHN'S DAY.

Celebrated by Virginia May Lodge.

ROANOKE TIMES BUREAU, RADFORD, VA., Dec. 29.

On Monday evening, December 28, Virginia May Lodge, No. 38, A. F. and A. M , held its regular meeting to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist, which came on Sunday. Two candidates were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, after which the secretary, S. T. Sampson, in behalf of secretary, S. T. Sampson, in behalf of Jas. Moffett, of Shekinah Lodgo, No. 246, of Philadelphia, Pa., presented to Virginia May Lodge, No. 38, a beautiful artistic engraved walnut frame, with a beautiful colored picture, demonstrating the three degrees.

The frame is enriched with emblems of the various degrees, also the working tools. Mr. Sampson made the presentation speech.

tools. Mr. Sampson made the presentation speech.

Jas. Moffet, the donator, is a very enthusiastic Mason, and is an uncle of our Jas. D. Moffet. In conclusion, he urged the brethren to constantly practice charity toward all mankind, and that as Virginia May Lodge, No. 38, ranked among the banner lodges of the State, that it was only a matter of short duration when she would be recognized as the banner lodge of Virginia.

S. D. Numan, the worshipful master, then called upon A. R. Heflin, who in behalf of Virginia May Lodge, No. 38, received the beautiful gift, and in esponse said: That the university of Masonry, represented by the two globes which adorns these pillars, unite men of every clime and sect, and in Masonry their was neither north, south, east or west, but a continuous friendship access.

their was neither north, south, east o their was neither north, south, east or west, but a continuous friendship, compared to a circle, without beginning or end. In behalf of Virginia May Lodge, he veryskindly thanked the donator, the same to be communicated by the secretary of the lodge.

The junior warden then called the craft to refreshments, which were served at the Hoffman House (the leading hotel in the city). The tables were artisticly arranged and loaded with all the choice dishes of the season.

A HOLIDAY MUSICALE.

A Pleasing Entertainment Given By the King's Daughters.

The holiday musicale of the Endeavor Circle of the King's Daughters was held last night in the Sundayschool room of the First Presbyterian Church. The hall was artistically decorated in holly and mistletoe, and was packed with the most cultured people of the city. The programme was well arranged, the young ladies looked lovely, and in their performance they were at their best. Every feature passed off nicely, and the occasion was one of the most pleasant of the holidays. A humorous recitation by Miss Clare brought the house down, and she won universal admiration for her accurate delivery.

The following was the programme: school room of the First Presbyterian

Plano Soloe Miss Van Horn.
A Bird From O'er the Sea White
Mrs. Kuykendall.
Recitation Miss Clare.
When I Think of Thee Mirrs, Murrsy
Mrs. Kuykendall, Mrs. Hines, Mr. Jones and Dr.
Downs.
Plano Solo—Valse Caprice No. 6 Des Pources
De Vienne Schubert—Liszt
Only Thee Miss Van Horn. White

Only Thee.... White Miss Cutchin and Mrs. Kuykendall.

WILL YOU HAVE A PENCIL?

Heironimus & Brugh's,

110 COMMERCE STREET.

They are showing in their line more pretty things in every department suitable for gifts than can be found in a day's shopping.

You can get anything in the Dry Goods line at their store.

Store open until 10 o'clock p.m. from now until Christmas.

All Cloaks and Novelty Dress Goods have been marked down to less than first cost to close them out.

Heironimus & Brugh's.

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Delays are Dangerous. Don't Dally.

Rattan Chairs, in white and XVI Century finish, from \$1.50 to \$12. Plush Rockers, in solid oak frames, in antique, Old English and XVI Century finish, from \$1.50 to \$18. All of these are HAND POLISHED. Leather seat Dining Chairs, oak frames, high backs and braced seats, from \$13.50 per set. Parlor Tables, finished in antique, imported mahogany and XVI Century, from \$1.50 to \$10. A solid oak Book Case, hand finished, only \$8.50. Parlor Cabinet, Writing Desk and Book Case combined, \$19. Solid oak China Closet, with glass doors, hand carved, \$16. Bed Lounges, oak and walnut frames, covered in moquette, \$10. Single Lounges, \$5. Extra fine silk plush Parlor Suits, six pieces, reduced from \$50 to \$45. Large size Goat Skin Rugs, \$3.50.

Personal attention given to every customer.

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REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENT.

114 Commerce Street.

We beg to call your attention to the following list of very cheap and desirable property.

Lot 40x130 feet on Tazewell street, \$500. 50x1321/2 feet on southeast corner Henry and Tenth avenue s. w., \$1,900.

Lot on east side of Henry street, 50x1321/2, \$1,750. N. E. corner of Tenth avenue and Nelson street, 35x150

40x150 on east side of Nelson street, near Jos. W. Coxe, Beautiful lot in Lewis Addition, 50x130 feet, \$1,000.

Lot on Center street, 50x130, \$500, \$50 cash balance \$25 per month.

Two 3-room houses for \$800 each.

10-100m house, rents for \$35 per month, price \$2,500.
50x130 on corner Sixth street and Moorman road, \$500.
We are now offering some bargains in improved and unimproved property and persons who are looking for houses or who intend to invest will find it to their interest to call on us.

Our stock is not shelf-worn or damaged. Every article is new and clean. The regular price is marked in plain figures on every article.

> Not to be undersold by trustee or fire sales, we reduced the price on our entire Elegant Stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods, 33% per cent

P. S.-A guess ticket for the Burning Candle given with every dollar's worth you buy.

40 Salem Avenue, Roanoke, Va. ang25-1yr

Very careful examination has proven beyond a doubt that investments made in furnishing

HARD WOOD OR SLATE MANTELS, Tile Facing, Hearths and Grates, will add attractiveness to any house or home several times the cost. Desirable goods, large variety, now in stock. Furnished, put

up and satisfaction guaranteed at Moderate Prices by VAN HORN & GREENE,

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